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PART 1.

DESCRIPTIONS OF A NEW SPECIES AND GENUS OF FLYCATCHERS FROM EAST AFRICA AND TWO NEW SUBSPECIES OF GUINEA FOWLS FROM SOUTH AFRICA.

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While on active service in German East Africa, I was fortunate in procuring, together with a few other birds, a single specimen of a flycatcher which proves to represent an undescribed species and genus, which I propose to name:

CHLOROPETELLA gen. nov.

Diagnosis: Apparently most closely allied to *Chloropeta*, but differing therefrom in its much smaller size, the bill narrower and more de-curved apically, the greater number of rictal bristles and in habits and habitat. The rictal bristles are comparatively longer and nasal bristles are conspicuous all along the base of the forehead, where they are almost absent and certainly fewer in number in *Chloropeta*. The tail is rounded, consists of ten feathers, and is about equal to the wing in length. The wing formula is: 1st primary about 55% of the length of the second; 2nd rather shorter than the eighth; 3rd and 6th about equal; 4th and 5th about equal and longest.

CHLOROPETELLA SUAHELICA spec. nov.

Description: upper parts in general olive yellow, rather darker sub-terminally on the tail, and the external margins and base of the tail rather clearer yellow; primaries and secondaries brown, the first and second primaries uniform, the third narrowly and the remainder broadly

margined with olive yellow for the basal two-thirds. Entire under parts of the body, the throat and the chin "primuline yellow" (Ridgway), sides of the face rather more olive, and the under wing coverts rather paler, yellow; under surface of the wings brown, with broad whitish inner margins; under surface of tail feathers olive yellow, the inner margins and tips of the outer ones clearer yellow. "Iris brown; bill light brown above, pale horn brown below; legs light brown, feet rather paler." Length of wing 47 mm., tail 47, tarsus 15, culmen 11, breadth of bill at the base 6.

The type, which is in the Transvaal Museum collection, is a female taken on 27th January, 1917, at Myiai, an outpost situated forty miles south-west of Dar-es-Salaam on the Maneromango road and about twelve miles from that village.

Habits: It was the habits and habitat of this bird which first led me to think that it might prove to be a novelty, and after several attempts to secure a specimen it was only on the day of my departure that I succeeded. On the first occasion on which I observed these birds, three were sitting affectionately side by side on a twig not six feet above my head in a pathway through the bush; they remained there for some time while I noted how different they appeared to be from any bird which I had previously met with or read about; upon my disturbing them to obtain another view, they hopped about amongst the branches a little farther away, but regarded me more with curiosity than fear. They appeared to be rather uncommon, as I saw them again only upon about five or six occasions and then only when I had no means of securing a specimen, except on the last, when I brought down one with a catapult and fine shot. They were noted to be lively little birds, always found in small parties of three or four, usually sitting very quietly until disturbed, whereupon they would flit about, uttering a sharp twittering note which might almost be described as a song; at other times, when in search of insects, they were remarkably quick in fitting up and down and about amongst the branches of the trees in the tangled scrub. But for their brown eyes and active manner when in movement, they might be mistaken for a species of *Zosterops*.

Chloropeta natalensis, the genotype and only species of the genus with which I have compared this new bird, has quite different habits. Very little has been recorded of it, and I have myself only seen it on a few rare occasions, some ten years ago, in Natal. It frequents the coarse herbage found along the streams and valleys below and on the sides of mountains, and has the habits of a warbler rather than of a fly-catcher; I have never seen more than one bird at a time, and it always proved to be very shy and upon being alarmed immediately took refuge in the tangled vegetation. The northern subspecies of *Chloropeta natalensis* do not differ appreciably in size or habits from the typical subspecies.

NUMIDA PAPILLOSA DAMARENSIS subsp. nov.

Differs from the typical *Numida papillosa* Rehw. in having the horn very narrow from the base to the tip, resembling a bent finger in shape. All figures of *N. papillosa* show that the typical form has the horn broad at the base and narrowing upwards, whereas in the present new subspecies the horn is practically the same thickness for the whole length. *N. papillosa transvaalensis* Neum. (Orn. Monatsb. 1899, p. 26) differs in having the papillae less developed than in the typical subspecies, and the horn much curved backwards.

N. coronata is a subspecies of *mitrata* and there is no evidence that *mitrata* and *papillosa* are subspecifically connected, even though *transvaalensis* has the papillae less developed than in the more western birds. The following measurements will best illustrate the difference in the size of the casque of all these forms, the three from Windhuck, S. W. African Protectorate, representing the type series of *N.p. damarensis* :—

Species.	Locality.	Wing.	Culmen.	Casque.		
				Breadth at base.	Breadth midway.	Length from ant. base.
<i>N. mitrata coronata</i> ,	Fish River	295	26	30	22	49
" "	" Barberton	274	25	29	18	50
" "	<i>mitrata</i> , Boror	268	26	25	—	30
" "	<i>papillosa transvaalensis</i> , Pretoria	280	25	30	19	50
" "	" Rustenburg... ..	280	22.5	29	18.5	50
" "	" Rustenburg... ..	280	23	29	18	53
" "	<i>damarensis</i> , Windhuck	280	22	16	11.5	38
" "	" "	285	24	17	10	37
" "	" "	293	24	15	9	37

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GUTTERA EDOUARDI SYMONSI subsp. nov.

Differs from the typical *G. edouardi* (Hartl.) from the coast of Natal in having only the faintest traces of chestnut coloration in the feathers of the lower neck, back, scapulars, chest and flanks and the white spots more distinctly blue, the whole general effect produced by these differences being very marked. *G. lividicollis* Ghigi (Mem. Acc. Sc. Instit., Bologna, vi, pl. ii, 1905) does not appear to differ from the typical *G. edouardi* in the feather coloration, but has been founded upon the coloration of the skin of the neck. No notes were made upon the colour of the soft parts of this new subspecies at the time of their capture, and I am therefore unable for the present to detail them; but Mr. R. E. Symons, who was kind enough to send a series of five specimens to the Transvaal Museum, but is away from home at the time of writing, has promised to remedy the omission when next he is able to secure specimens; the lack of these particulars does not, however, affect the status of the new subspecies. The specimens examined are two pairs of adults and an immature male, the last still retaining black and buffish down on the back of the head and short black feathers, some tipped with dirty white, on the throat; the crest is also not fully developed. Essentially the immature specimen does not differ from the adults—but traces of bars instead of spots of bluish white are to be seen in the outer wing-coverts, abdominal region and flanks, and particularly on the tail feathers. The type series (of which T.M. No. 11585 is the type) was taken at Karkloof (3,500ft.), Natal, by Mr. R. E. Symons, after whom I have pleasure in naming the subspecies.

Dimensions: Adults, length of wing from tip of primaries 260-275 mm; tail 140-160; metatarsus 80; culmen 22-25. Immature, wing 250, tail 130, metatarsus 72, culmen 22.